

**Amendments to the Claims:**

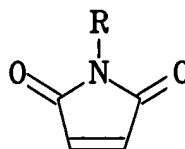
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

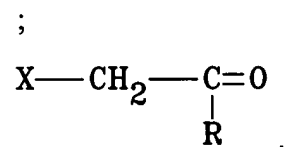
1-23 (canceled)

24 (currently amended): A composition comprising an inactivated intact retrovirus, wherein the intact retrovirus is inactivated due to disruption of one or more CCHC zinc fingers in a nucleocapsid protein by contact with a compound selected from the group consisting of:

disulfides having the formula R-S-S-R;



maleimides having the formula



alpha-halogenated ketones having the formula

hydrazides having the formula R-NH-NH-R;

nitric oxide; and

ferric ions and complexes containing  $\text{Fe}^{+3}$ ;

~~wherein the compound is not 5,5-Dithiobis(2-Nitrobenzoic Acid), and~~ wherein

R is any atom or molecule, and X is selected from the group consisting of F, I, Br and Cl, ~~and~~

~~wherein contacting said retrovirus with said compound inactivates said retrovirus.~~

25 (currently amended): The composition of claim 24, wherein the compound is selected from the group consisting of: Tetramethylthiuram Disulfide, ~~Tetraethylthiuram~~ Tetraethylthiuram Disulfide, Tetraisopropylthiuram Disulfide, Tetrabutylthiuram Disulfide, Dicyclopentamethylenethiuram Disulfide, Isopropylxanthic Disulfide, O,O-Diethyl

5 Dithiobis-(Thioformate), Benzoyl Disulfide, Benzoylmethyl Disulfide, Formamidine Disulfide  
6 2HCl, 2-(Diethylamino)ethyl Disulfide, Aldrithiol-2, Aldrithiol-4, 2,2-Dithiobis(Pyridine  
7 N-Oxide), 6,6-Dithiodinicotinic Acid, 4-Methyl-2-Quinolyl Disulfide, 2-Quinolyl Disulfide, 2,2  
8 Dithiobis(benzothiazole), 2,2-Dithiobis(4-Tert-Butyl-1-Isopropyl)-Imidazole,  
9 4-(dimethylamino)phenyl disulfide, 2-Acetamidophenyl Disulfide, 2,3-Dimethoxyphenyl  
10 Disulfide, 4-Acetamidophenyl Disulfide, 2-(Ethoxycarboxamido)phenyl Disulfide,  
11 3-Nitrophenyl Disulfide, 4-Nitrophenyl Disulfide, 2-Aminophenyl Disulfide, 2,2  
12 Dithiobis(benzonitrile), p-Tolyl Disulfoxide, 2,4,5-Trichlorophenyl Disulfide,  
13 4-Methylsulfonyl-2-Nitrophenyl Disulfide, 4-Methylsulfonyl-2-Nitrophenyl Disulfide,  
14 3,3-Dithiodipropionic Acid, N,N-Diformyl-L-Cystine, Trans-1,2-Dithiane-4,5-Diol,  
15 2-Chloro-5-Nitrophenyl Disulfide, 2-Amino-4-Chlorophenyl Disulfide,  
16 2,2-Dithiobis(1-Naphtylamine), 2,4-Dinitrophenyl *p*-Tolyl Disulfide, 4-Nitrophenyl *p*-Tolyl  
17 Disulfide, and 4-Chloro-3-Nitrophenyl Disulfide.

1 26 (currently amended): The composition of claim 24, wherein the compound is  
2 selected from the group consisting of disulfides having the formula R-S-S-R.

1 27 (original): The composition of claim 24, wherein the compound is  
2 Aldrithiol-2.

1 28 (original): The composition of claim 24, wherein the retrovirus is selected  
2 from the group consisting of *Lentiviruses* and *Oncoviruses*.

1 29 (original): The composition of claim 28, wherein said retrovirus is an HIV-1  
2 retrovirus.